
APPENDIX G

The Communities' Recommendations to RL's Hanford Economic Transition Initiative

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This section describes the communities' recommendations and interpretations of the detailed initiatives that have been identified in the Hanford Economic Transition Initiative (HETI) -- having potential economic impacts to the local economy. HETI is evolving and developing, but represents the current economic initiatives, subject to funding and policy limitations, under consideration by RL and its contractors in partnership with the Community. DOE will consider all inputs and recommendations contained in this Appendix, along with future considerations as changes occur.

A complementary initiative, the Sustainable Economic Transition Initiative, has been proposed by the Communities. Both initiatives will be converted to focused business plans as soon as possible to ensure maximum progress and benefit is realized by DOE in its Site cleanup and the Community economic development mission and by the Communities in their economic development and diversification missions. These plans will be written in joint sessions with RL and the Communities representatives. RL commits to work jointly with the Communities as partners to achieve the necessary economic development and diversification results and to realize the shared goal of steadily converting the Communities' economic dependence from Hanford to a robust, diverse and growing private sector.

Workscope

This portion of the Plan is organized according to the eight major elements of HETI -- planning and policy analysis, private sector partnerships, economic conversion of assets, infrastructure transition, worker retraining, technology transfer, issues/barrier resolutions, and user facility special projects.

Planning and Policy Analysis

RL will provide overall planning, analysis, and integration of HETI implementation activities; develop strategic communications plans supporting the Hanford Site's transition from a government dependent facility to one sustained by the private sector economy as the cleanup mission is accomplished; identify and encourage opportunities for leveraged outsourcing in cleanup activities as well as promoting economic development of the local and regional Community; and will provide improved capabilities for public and private sector entities to respond to employment fluctuations and the eventual downsizing of the Hanford work force.

Goal

RL will create and maintain a strategic planning system that effectively engages and informs stakeholders in designing and implementing HETI.

Strategies

The following strategies will be taken to help mitigate impacts on stakeholders and simultaneously improve economic diversification efforts:

1. TRIDEC will be designated and supported as the focal point for coordination of Community-based HETI program elements¹;
2. The "Hanford Sustainable Economic Transition Initiative" (SETI) will be implemented to fund and authorize local/regional economic development and diversification programs.
3. A "Hanford Regional Planning Commission" (HRPC) will be established to integrate Hanford Site planning with local and state government activities under the guidance of the Washington Growth Management Act. The resulting comprehensive plan will designate near and long-term land uses, transportation and infrastructure system improvements, and Hanford employment projections; and
4. A dynamic "HETI Stakeholder Roundtable" meeting series will be initiated to track progress, adjust direction as necessary, and annually update this section of the Work Force Restructuring Plan.

Success Objectives

1. Achieve a long-term partnership with HETI stakeholders so that roles and responsibilities are clearly delegated and effectively executed;
2. Fully engage stakeholders in strategic HETI planning and implementation;
3. Develop a comprehensive information system that eliminates future work force fluctuation surprises;
4. Use the information generated to target the Community's industrial recruiting, service provision, and capital improvement programs;
5. Effectively market Hanford's business and economic development opportunities to the region and beyond; and
6. Furnish required funding and programmatic authority to support critical Hanford economic diversification efforts.

¹ TRIDEC would accordingly be appointed as Hanford's "Community Reuse Organization" by the DOE-Headquarters restructuring task force. While this term does not readily apply to the broad nature of the HETI program, it is being used across the DOE complex to denote the Community-based organization through which work force restructuring programs are coordinated.

Near Term Results²

1. Establish the HRPC and complete a comprehensive land use plan of the Hanford Site with appropriate input from stakeholders and the Indian Nations.
2. Complete a series of "worker and Community impact studies" to make it possible to (a) gauge immediate, near-, and long-term work force transition repercussions, (b) identify Community economic strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities, and (c) devise effective economic development strategies.
3. As a product of the studies conducted, provide Community access to a computerized information system to track work force changes and demand/supply projections tied to knowledge, skills and abilities (and related training/ education needs);
4. Secure congressional support for the Hanford Sustainable Economic Transition Initiative; and
5. Host the first annual "Hanford Business Fair" to showcase outsourcing, asset conversion, technology commercialization, industrial development, and other economic development opportunities.

Private Sector Partnerships

The major economic strategy of HETI is to develop a large private sector economic base to replace Hanford cleanup funding over time. Working with the local Community who can offer various economic incentives to interested companies, RL will focus on a DOE/Community/Industry partnership approach to economic development. Opportunities offered by the government can provide the "seed" for businesses to germinate and/or grow, thus increasing the local job base.

"Leveraged outsourcing" is seen as the best opportunity to accomplish meaningful economic development and diversification. The technique involves making Hanford business opportunities available on condition that they be pursued from a local base using Hanford work force resources to the maximum possible extent. Companies will also be encouraged to make use of Hanford work opportunities to expand into similar work for other government and private sector clients. Under these circumstances, such firms offer employment opportunities that closely match the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the existing Hanford work force, but survive the cleaning up and shutting down of the Site.

Goals

1. RL will launch efforts which improve the cost, quality and timeliness of products and services needed for the Hanford cleanup program; and

² "Near term" refers throughout this section of the plan to accomplishments targeted for the next 12 to 18 months.

2. RL is committed to supporting a diversified, sustainable, and competitive private sector by 'buying' needed goods and services from local businesses and industries rather than 'making' them on Site;

Strategies

The following strategies will be taken:

1. Leveraged outsourcing efforts will focus toward opportunities that:
 - Are easiest to implement, but generate the maximum number of jobs;
 - Provide employment opportunities for existing Hanford workers at comparable wages and benefits; and/or
 - Attract industries that strengthen and diversify the economy.
2. Entrepreneurs will be empowered to successfully participate in the Hanford cleanup by:
 - Establishing an "Environmental Business Enterprise Center" in cooperation with the Washington Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development to stimulate new businesses that will support sustainable development of the local and regional economies;
 - Creating an "Entrepreneurs' Advisory Board" to recommend to the Governor and RL mechanisms and resources to help small businesses flourish in their dealings with Hanford;
 - Naming members to the "Hanford Area Economic Investment Fund Committee" established by the State Legislature to manage funds collected at the U.S. Ecology low-level radioactive waste landfill operated on the Site;
 - Establishing a "Hanford Cleanup and Environmental Technology Development Enterprise Zone" as part of the Tri-Cities Science and Technology Park that provides targeted incentives and allows for creation, testing, and demonstration of new technologies; and
 - Implementing a "Hanford Entrepreneur Program" to provide a path for employees of RL contractors and area businesses to develop and commercialize technologies through spin-off or startup companies.
3. Private sector partners will be provided with financial and business assistance, including:
 - Low-interest loans and startup seed grants;
 - Venture and equity financing; and

Small business development assistance, training, and counseling.

4. All RL contractors in the Communities diversification effort will be engaged by incorporating the following into performance criteria:

Hanford contracts will be executed from privately owned office, laboratory, and industrial facilities in the Communities;

Firms will be encouraged and empowered to use their Hanford contracts to expand into work for others; and

Contractors will actively support the Communities' efforts to achieve successful transition of Hanford's land, equipment, facilities, and work force resources.

Success Objectives

1. Substantial growth in new, sustainable, Hanford-independent jobs;
2. Labor support of leveraged outsourcing as a legitimate economic development tool;
3. Significant numbers of successful spin-offs and new company startups after the first several years;
4. Increasing market shares of non-Hanford, sustainable business; and
5. Integrated outsourcing to create strong anchor industries in manufacturing, technology, and agribusiness.

Near Term Results

1. Two private partnerships completed and operating in the first year;
2. At least 100 new, sustainable jobs filled by the end of the first year;
3. At least one major, successful business spin-off process completed;
4. Formal concurrence from DOE/Congress that preferences provided for purchasing from locally domiciled firms are acceptable;
5. Appointment by Governor Lowry of members to the Hanford Area Economic Investment Fund Committee and creation of the Entrepreneurs' Advisory Board;
6. Establishment of a Hanford Cleanup and Environmental Technology Development Enterprise Zone; and
7. Implementation of a Hanford Entrepreneur Program.

Economic Conversion of Assets

Many of Hanford's primary assets (that is, unique Site capabilities; knowledge, skills, ability, and experience of the work force; land, facilities, equipment, and infrastructure), were designed and built for the Hanford defense mission. The economic challenge now is to maximize the taxpayers' previous investment by converting assets and "leveraging" their use for local economic development objectives.

Commercial ventures at Hanford, with collaboration from local and regional economic development leaders, will provide re-use of Hanford's assets and new jobs for the Communities. A recent example of asset conversion is the Hanford Metal Working Facility recently transferred to the Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Company to serve as the centerpiece of a new locally based industry. On a much broader scale, the combined assets of Hanford offer exciting potential for establishing new industries of significant scale. Two examples are the "Hanford Medical Isotope Production Center" and the "Sustainable Master-Planned Farm Complex."

Hanford Medical Isotope Production Center: Radioactive isotopes are widely used in medical diagnosis and treatment of cancer and other diseases plaguing millions of patients. With limited U.S. production capability, the supply of medical isotopes is in a very precarious state. Hanford has proven expertise in the manufacture, separation, and purification of medical isotopes. It has a work force trained in processing and handling of radioactive materials. Waste disposal facilities are present on the Site. Laboratory capabilities, including the FFTF's Fusion Materials Engineering Facility and the EMSL, could support isotope production. These resources combined to form the Hanford Medical Isotope Production Center could support a new, multi-million dollar industry for the Community.

Sustainable Master-Planned Farm Complex: There are very few, if any, areas in the United States that can compete with Hanford in terms of available fertile land, abundant water supplies, inexpensive electrical power, an excellent growing climate, proximity to agricultural support services and product markets, and access to science and technology. What is envisioned is an innovative master-planned agribusiness complex on surplus Hanford land using the latest technologies. Major components of the complex will include irrigated farming, dairy farms and product plants, food processing plants, feed mills, compost and methane gas production facilities, and electric cogeneration plants. Primary attention will be given to energy efficiency and maximum reuse of all waste and byproducts. The project will take advantage of the research and development resources of Washington State University and Battelle's Pacific Northwest Laboratories.

Goals

1. RL will convert unused or underutilized land and facilities to an economically productive status;
2. RL will utilize converted land and facilities to create new family wage, value-added manufacturing jobs; and

3. RL will combine the unique assets of the Hanford Site to create significant new industries.

Strategies

The following strategies will be taken:

1. Through the Hanford Regional Planning Commission, RL will carry out a comprehensive land reuse planning effort to identify the most beneficial use of opportunities for converted land;
2. A comprehensive inventory of surplus and shareable equipment, buildings and other property will be conducted. The results of the inventory will be disseminated to new or existing businesses through a Communities marketing campaign;
3. Commercially accessible portions of the Site will be fully integrated into the Tri-Cities Science & Technology Park as its "North Campus";
4. A process to review and revise, as necessary, DOE policies, guidelines, and procedures relating to the loan or transfer of facilities and equipment for alternate commercial use will be developed and implemented; and
5. Business and marketing plans for creation of two major industries: the "Hanford Medical Isotope Production Center" and the "Master Planned Sustainable Agricultural Community" will be prepared.

Success Objectives

1. Availability of comprehensive inventories of Site competencies and land, facilities, equipment for commercial use;
2. Maintenance of a Site assets marketing campaign directed at targeted industries;
3. Implementation of the Science & Technology Park's North Campus with a growing number of private sector tenants; and
4. Creation of major new industries using unique Site assets.

Near Term Results

1. Business and marketing plans developed for creation of the Hanford Medical Isotope Production Center and the Master Planned Sustainable Agricultural Community;
2. All necessary activities taken to convert the "324 Building" and other assets as a "user laboratory" facility in support of the Hanford Medical Isotope Production Center;
3. The Hanford Metal Working Facility relocated to its new Science & Technology Park facility and providing an increasing number of new manufacturing jobs; and
4. Completion of land, equipment, and facility inventories.

Infrastructure Transition

"Infrastructure," as used in this Plan, refers to physical improvements such as roads and utilities, as well as basic Site support services. An Infrastructure Transition Initiative has been formed in support of HETI. It seeks to enhance the Hanford infrastructure to ensure that current and projected needs are met in the most cost effective manner possible. Investment and partnership with commercial and public enterprises are emphasized.

Goals

The Infrastructure Transition Initiative has three key components:

1. Develop a strategy for providing streamlined infrastructure systems to support Hanford's current and future mission;
2. Reduce the costs associated with supporting the infrastructure systems; and
3. Actively seek opportunities to coordinate Site infrastructure planning activities with those of adjacent local governments and utility districts to maximize efficiency and effectiveness and diversify the regional economy.

Strategies

The following strategies will be taken by RL:

1. Streamline and simplify Site support functions;
2. Develop joint infrastructure planning programs with the City of Richland, Benton County, the Benton County Public Utility District, the Port of Benton, Ben Franklin Transit, and other public service entities; and
3. Implement Hanford infrastructure additions and improvements that support economic diversification of the Community.

Success Objectives

1. Infrastructure enhancement plans are developed cooperatively by RL, Hanford Site contractors and local public service providers; and
2. Site infrastructure supports current and future Hanford missions while providing maximum possible economic development and new job creation.

Near Term Results

1. The "Hanford Infrastructure Modernization Plan" is completed in collaboration with local governments and other service providers;
2. A "Commercial Opportunities Plan" is completed to identify infrastructure improvements necessary to accommodate entrepreneurs, small businesses and new job creation for displaced workers; and

3. In cooperation with the Washington Department of Information Services, Hanford and the Communities are linked to the "information highway" in a way that supports education, training, and business growth.

Worker Retraining

While this Section 3161-mandated element is thoroughly discussed elsewhere in the Plan, portions are repeated here since the future economy of the local Communities (and, indeed, the State of Washington) depends on the same ingredient as the current Hanford cleanup mission -- a highly educated and well-trained work force.

The fundamental need for worker retraining is to maintain the essential resource represented by the Hanford worker and to enhance his/her capabilities to be productive in present and future Hanford-related endeavors. In view of this, education, training, and retraining of the existing Hanford work force is considered a critical success factor of the Communities assistance programs.

RL will work closely with Columbia Basin College (CBC), Washington State University\Tri-Cities (WSU-TC) and the Hanford Training and Education Council in developing worker retraining programs. Additionally, the Hazardous Materials Management and Emergency Response (HAMMER) Training Center will serve an important role in RL's worker training strategies. Resources of the Hanford labor unions, the Washington Department of Employment Security, and the Private Industrial Council will also be tapped.

Goals

1. Enhance the skills of displaced Hanford workers to prepare them to support the environmental mission;
2. Make available training and education programs that are properly accredited and lead to transferable certification;
3. Ensure health and safety training for all Hanford workers is effective and up-to-date;
4. Ensure that other training and education programs are compatible with current and projected Community work force needs; and
5. Provide the opportunity for developmental and basic skills training in hands-on, performance-based format whenever necessary.

Strategies

To achieve the goals above, the following strategies will be implemented:

1. A "Continuous Learning Center" will be established to provide multi-disciplinary, career-specific, and foundation skills and literacy training to help displaced workers transition;

2. A program will be developed to transfer the knowledge and skills of veteran and retired workers and to help them become trainers of displaced workers;
3. Existing safety and health training programs and their integration with related national efforts will be strengthened;
4. Continuous integration of evolving work force needs into the program planning of the Communities' academic partners will begin; and
5. HAMMER's, CBC's and WSU-TC's work force education and training programs and facilities will be maximized to achieve long-term cost savings.

Success Objectives

The extraordinary and diverse capabilities of the Hanford work force are extremely valuable resources. Preservation of this resource is a basic driver for worker retraining. Human resource planning, therefore, should be integral to all activities envisioned. In addition, new and expanding business should have full knowledge of this resource, and streamlined recruiting access to this talented cadre of individuals should be provided. The following will indicate success in this regard:

1. Workers displaced by Hanford work force restructuring will be retrained to accomplish the environmental mission during its duration;
2. Scientists, engineers, and other professionals will continue to develop innovative solutions to environmental technology challenges;
3. All Hanford workers will be trained to meet high health and safety standards;
4. Accredited training will give workers the credentials they need to find employment supporting cleanup activities; and
5. Hanford training groups will be able to transfer accredited training courses to their academic partners.

Near Term Results

1. The completion of HAMMER and the full utilization of its hands-on laboratory facilities;
2. Creation of Hanford's Continuous Learning Center with supporting roles appropriately undertaken by WSU-TC, CBC, HAMMER, and other educational entities; and
3. Integrated use of WSU-TC's Consolidated Information Center and CBC's Work Force Training Center in worker retraining programs.

Technology Transfer

Identification of the Site's technology needs while matching available solutions will be addressed. A variety of mechanisms for linking technological transfer between RL, private industry, the local region and the State of Washington will be explored. Hanford-developed technology with potential for commercial applications will be identified and transferred to the private sector, with special focus on local technology spin-offs. Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs) that facilitate technology transfer and technology maturation will be established.

Goals

1. In partnership with the State of Washington, the region, Hanford contractors, and the private sector, become an acknowledged leader in commercializing federal technology for the benefit of Hanford Site cleanup, local/regional economic development, and U.S. competitiveness;
2. Make substantial and revolutionary improvements in Hanford's technology transfer process;
3. Become "market-driven" -- focusing on industry needs while simultaneously communicating to the private sector opportunities for technology transfers in and out of Hanford;
4. Provide new and effective commercialization mechanisms, including novel uses of CRADAs, for transferring technology into and out of Hanford that enhance and accelerate the meeting of Hanford's cleanup goals; and
5. Facilitate policy changes necessary to streamline and greatly accelerate the matching of industry with technology that they need and the deployment of that technology commercially.

Strategies

1. Use existing DOE/State/Community/Industry partnerships and collaborations to enhance and accelerate ongoing technology transfers and to devise new and/or improved approaches, with special focus on small business and technology transfers that mitigate local/regional economic dislocations;
2. Evaluate and incorporate within the Hanford technology transfer plan the best of the more recent, successful strategies within the top universities, DOE, other federal agencies (specifically NASA) and the private sector;
3. Devise and implement incentives within RL and its contractors that make technology transfer a significant and recognized priority;
4. Improve the funding, lessen the constraints, reduce procurement rigidity and devise improved uses of CRADAs to better facilitate and expand technology transfers in and out of Hanford;

5. Cooperatively with the Community and the State, ensure that critical business and intellectual property support services are available to facilitate entrepreneurs, small business, and DOE/contractor personnel in their transfer efforts;
6. Establish a collaborative test, demonstration and certification test-bed for environmental technologies at Hanford to gain reciprocal licenses and approvals for use of selected technologies that pass monitored qualification trials; and
7. Improve local/regional business knowledge of and participation in the DOE acquisition process.

Success Objectives

1. Rapidly increasing quantified measures of success from technology transfers into and out of Hanford;
2. Improvements in the local/regional economy due to technology transfer's contributions to new jobs and industries;
3. Increasing rates of regional participation in Hanford procurements;
4. Improved profitability, reduced time and expense spent in the regulatory process and expanded markets for entrepreneurs and businesses; and
5. Substantial performance improvements and expanded uses of innovative technologies for less time and money in Hanford's cleanup mission.

Near Term Results

Several previously mentioned efforts, particularly the Environmental Business Center and Enterprise Zone and entrepreneurial programs, will contribute to Hanford's success at technology commercialization during the next two years. Additional achievement targets follow:

1. Through commercialization of Hanford technologies, RL will provide 25% of jobs slots needed for displaced workers, accomplishing the following:
 - Determination of infrastructure changes within RL, the contractors, and the Community needed to achieve technology commercialization;
 - Introduction of DOE/contractors incentives to make successful technology transfer a priority at Hanford;
 - Implementation of a "technology pull" program and improvement of Hanford's ongoing "technology push" program; and
 - Establish "seed" capital and blanket CRADA funding for implementing technology demonstrations ripe for commercialization.

2. RL will launch the "Hanford Cleanup Technology Initiative" through a cooperative venture of RL, the State and Western Governor's Association, area universities, and local economic development agencies. Successfully field test, demonstrate, and certify new environmental technologies.
3. RL will support the expansion of TRIDEC's "Tri-Cities Technology Commercialization Partnership" (TCCP) to pursue an expanding number of technology transfer prospects.
4. Through the "Agribusiness Commercialization and Development" (ABCD) Center, at least one new agricultural or food processing industry to the local economy will be added.

Issues, Barriers and Resolutions

Development of methods to identify and resolve potential barriers to successful implementation of HETI. Barriers include, but are not limited to cultural, procedural, statutory, regulatory and policy driven obstructions. To identify and remove such barriers will require negotiations with state, federal, local, regulatory, and national policy leaders.

Hanford was named a "Reinvention Laboratory" in 1993 as part of Vice President Al Gore's National Performance Review. This status will make it possible for RL to pursue solutions not previously available to the Site. As part of the renegotiated Tri-Party Agreement, DOE, the Washington State Department of Ecology and the Environmental Protection Agency (Region X) committed to a joint "reinventing government" initiative that will enhance cleanup efforts.

Goals

1. Identify and remove barriers to effective economic transition, technology commercialization and leveraged outsourcing; and
2. Establish a dedicated, funded and organizationally supported DOE/Community program to eliminate barriers.

Strategies

The following strategies will be taken to achieve the goals above:

1. In cooperation with TRIDEC and represented economic development agencies, identify barriers that are blocking effective cleanup and penetration of Hanford by private businesses;
2. Prioritize actions so that the most significant barriers can be removed at the earliest possible opportunity; and
3. Use previously mentioned Enterprise Zone and entrepreneurial programs to insulate businesses from the disabling effects of barriers.

Success Objective

Resolution or mitigation of identified barriers as evidenced by successful technology commercialization, leveraged outsourcing job creation, and/or reduced cost for services to Hanford.

Near Term Results

1. Secure an Office of Management and Budget policy on out-year financing as applied to leveraged outsourcing;
2. Eliminate procurement rules, regulatory overlap, and duplication that result in delays, added costs and provide bureaucratic impediments to procurement of private sector resources;
3. Develop written policy and implementation procedures to support economic transition, leveraged outsourcing and technology commercialization; and
4. Eliminate RL policies, attitudes and practices that reflect the culture that originated with the Manhattan Project and has become institutionalized over the past 50 years.

Miscellaneous Notes

Miscellaneous highlights that clarify or add emphasis to this section are:

RL and the Communities should commit to long term planning and long term funding of the economic development and diversification activities described in the Plan;

The Restructuring Plan should reward or incentivize cost-reduced cleanup at Hanford, especially where the cost reductions also include substantive actions to increase economic development and diversification in the Communities;

For similarly severely affected 3161 communities across DOE's complex, DOE and the Communities should work together to find a solution to the budget scoring problem, i.e., modify, at least for a reasonable time period, the current federal prohibitions on long term contracting for goods and services.

RL and its Contractors, assisted by the Communities as needed, should develop special incentives, waivers and other procurement/contracting mechanisms to facilitate spin-outs, leveraged outsourcing, start-ups, technology transfer and commercialization, asset conversions, other private-public partnerships and existing businesses who meet the following:

- locate in the Communities,
- employ a substantial fraction of existing workers from within the Communities and/or Hanford (especially workers displaced by Hanford's restructuring), and
- engage substantially in business activities that are independent of DOE.

Examples of such incentives should include, but not be limited by, limited duration initial procurement contracts for goods and services to launch spin-outs, etc., followed by open competition; flexible transfer and leasing arrangements of facilities and/or equipment needed for such economic transition activities; maximum use of procurements from local or regional sources; and incentives to DOE's prime contractors for facilitating such economic transition activities.

RL, its contractors, and the Communities should expand training and education to include all activities affecting the success of the Community Impact and Economic Development plan, i.e., including how to spin-out businesses from Hanford; how to start-up new businesses; how to be part of a leveraged outsourcing; how to be part of a staff exchange or on entrepreneurial leave; how to license and commercialize Hanford and/or other technology; how to assess markets, competitors and prepare business plans; and how to secure funding.

User Facility Special Projects

Hanford land and infrastructure will be made available to support other federal agency mission needs as well as projects that function as "user facilities." Examples include the National Science Foundation funded Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO), the HAMMER Training Center, the Superconducting Magnetic Energy Storage (SMES) Device, and the Environmental and Molecular Sciences Laboratory (EMSL). As previously described, large-scale enterprises like the Hanford Medical Isotope Production Center and the Sustainable Master-Planned Farm Complex could bring hundreds of new jobs to Hanford.

Public Participation

RL is committed to a public involvement and information policy to keep the work force and the Community informed and involved. The process will provide for active participation in the programs, events, and direction of HETI. RL will involve key stakeholders in the development and implementation of this plan. TRIDEC, as part of their administrative role in the submission of economic development proposals from the Community, will also be implementing a public involvement process.